ANGOLA



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It is reported (1994) that some obsolescent buoyage marks (Uniform Lateral System) may still be encountered.

Currency

The official unit of currency is the readjusted kwanza (AOK), consisting of 100 lwei.

Government

General

Angola is located in the S part of Africa and faces the South Atlantic Ocean. It is bounded on the N and NE by the Democratic Republic of Congo, formerly Zaire; on the SE by Zambia; and on the S by Namibia. The coast, over 800 miles long, includes the province of Cabinda, a small separated enclave. About 65 per cent of the country is formed by a plateau with elevations of 1,050 to 1,350m. The watershed of many rivers runs through the central part of this inland plateau. The coastal plain is separated from the plateau by a zone that varies in width from about 100 miles in the N part to about 15 miles in the central and S parts.

The climate is mostly tropical, being semiarid in the S and coastal parts. Temperatures are constant throughout the year and most rain falls during March and April. The N part has a dry season from May to October and a rainy season from November to April.

Buoyage System

The IALA Buoyage System (Region A) is in effect. See Chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.



Flag of Angola

Angola gained independence from Portugal in 1975. Since that time civil wars have lasted until 1994 when a peace accord was signed. The constitution adopted at independence was revised in 1990 to permit opposition parties.

The supreme organ of state is the unicameral 220-member National Assembly elected to 4-year terms by proportional vote. There is an executive President, elected for renewable 5-year terms, who appoints a Council of Ministers. The 18 provinces, each under a Provincial Commissioner appointed by

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the President and an elected legislature of from 55 to 85 members, are sub-divided into 139 districts.

The legal system is based on Portuguese civil law system and customary law.

The capital is Luanda.

Holidays

The following holidays are observed:

| New Year's Day | January 1 |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Start of Armed War | February 4 |
| Workers Day | May 1 |
| Day of the Dead | November 2 |
| Independence Day | November 11 |
| Date of Foundation of MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) | December 10 |
| Christmas Eve | December 24 (starting at 1200) |
| Christmas Day (also known as Family Day) | December 25 |

Industries

The major industries include petroleum production, mining (iron ore, diamonds, gold, phosphates, fledspar, bauxite, and uranium), fish processing, food processing, brewing, tobacco products, textiles, and basic construction materials.

The principal crops are bananas, sugarcane, coffee, sisal, corn, cotton, manioc, tobacco, vegetables, plantains, livestock, timber, and fish.

Languages

The official language is Portuguese. Bantu is the one of several tribal languages also spoken.

Time Zone

The Time Zone description is ALFA (-1). Daylight Savings Time is not observed.

World Time Zone Chart

http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/ref/pdf/802801.pdf

U.S. Embassy

The U.S. Embassy is situated at 32 Rua Houari Boumedienne, Miramar, Luanda.

The mailing addresses are, as follows:

- International mail— Caixa Postal 6484 Luanda
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